

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /160 W
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1214

INFO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6575

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 6575 VICE 657)

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO USBURMINES, DOE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG IN

SUBJECT: INDIA'S RULES OUT PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACTS OIL

REF: NEW DELHI 6061

1. IN A MAJOR POLICY STATEMENT BEFORE RAJYA SABHA ON APRIL 24, MINISTER
OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZER, H N BAHUGUNA, RULED OUT FUTURE
PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACTS WITH FOREIGN COMPANIES TO DEVELOP INDIA'S
OFFSHORE OIL RESOURCES. UNTIL NOW GOI WAS WILLING TO CONSIDER PRODUCTION

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SHARING PROPOALS BY FOREIGN FIRMS. HOWEVER, BAHUGUNA ACKNOWLEDGED
INDIA WOULD CONTINUE TO IMPORT FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY, SPECIALIZED SERVICES

AND EQUIPMENT FOR OIL EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION AS REQUIRED.

2. MINISTER BAHUGUNA ALSO STATED GOI WAS GIVING TOP PRIORITY TO THE
SEARCH FOR OIL, BOTH ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE (REFTEL).

3. AT PRESENT, GOI'S ONLY PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACT IS WITH ASAMERA GROUP IN WHICH OIL AND NAURAL GAS COMMISSION HOLDS 35 PERCENT SHARE. THIS FIRM HAS DRILLED ONE DRY WELL IN CAUVERY BASIN TO DATE AND HAS OPTION UNTIL JUNE 30, 1978 TO SPUD A SECOND WELL. TWO OTHER OIL PRODUCTION SHARING CONTRACS,BOTH WITH US FIRMS. WERE TERMINATED DURING 1977 BY THESE COMPANIES FOLLOWING UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO FIND OIL IN OFF KUTCH AND THE BAY OF BENGAL. GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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